

**FY 2008 S & PF COMPETITIVE GRANT PROPOSAL**

**Applicant**

**Kentucky Division of Forestry**  
**627 Comanche Trail**  
**Frankfort, Ky 40601**  
**(502) 564-4496**

**Project Name:** “Changing Roles: Wildland-Urban Interface Professional Development Program within the Kentucky Division of Forestry”

**Project Lead:** Stewart West, Forest Stewardship Section Supervisor, [stewart.west@ky.gov](mailto:stewart.west@ky.gov)

### **Abstract:**

This project is prompted by the USFS Southern Region, 2006 “unfunded priority” of providing training to natural resource professionals to understand the complexities of natural resource management within the wildland-urban interface and to successfully work with partnerships in ensuring a sustainable natural environment for maintaining quality of life for future generations.

Natural resource managers have long implemented traditional forestry management recommendations and practices in rural landscapes; however, the new challenges of today from development pressures upon the land base promote changes in societal values and fragmented

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### **Project Description:**

The goal of this project is to provide a series of three regional training sessions primarily targeting Kentucky Division of Forestry personnel and also key partners such as: NRCS District Conservationists, Kentucky Division of Conservation, biologists with the Kentucky Department for Fish and Wildlife Resources, and University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension agents. The training would be facilitated by the Kentucky Division of Forestry, Stewardship and Education Section, along with the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service. A keynote speaker would be available for each session to validate the importance of the workshop to natural resource professionals participating and to highlight the challenges of natural resource management in a society of changing values and fragmented forests.

Each training session would be comprised of a two-day training workshop for three field districts. Overnight accommodations will be needed for division personnel. Travel expense and accommodations for the guest speaker will also need to be covered.

This training would be provided for Kentucky Division of Forestry personnel and would assist them in dealing with the complexities of natural resource management in the wildland-urban interface and obtaining a better understanding of the importance of utilizing partnerships to achieve sustainable environmental goals. Additional participants would include local county extension agents, district conservationists and wildlife biologists.

Equipment and supplies needed for the training presentations include a laptop computer, projector, flip charts, easels and miscellaneous office supplies.

The training will be supplemented by educational materials in the *"Changing Roles, Wildland-Urban Interface Professional Development"* training guide as well as, *"When the Forest Becomes a Community," A Forester's Handbook for the Wildland/Urban Interface*, which both are endorsed by the Southern Group of State Foresters.



### Evaluation Criteria

**National and Regional Relevance - (Conserve, Protect, Enhance)**

Completion of the “Changing Roles” Wildland-Urban Interface Professional Development Program will be the initial phase for natural resource professionals to focus on the challenges of natural resource management within the interface. Kentucky is experiencing land-use changes in areas throughout the state, especially near our major lake communities and rivers, impacting the forest resource that once was very rural. Land management conflicts generally increase with development of an area due to competing societal values regarding our natural resources and as the local demographics change. These natural resource conflicts and threats present new challenges for the natural resource professional to utilize partnerships in disseminating technical assistance within local communities to conserve, protect, and enhance our forest resource. The “Changing Roles” workshops will highlight many complex interface issues and offer possible solutions to mitigate the impacts upon our communities and forest resource.

Regional priorities such as: fractured forests, wildland fire/forest fuel, changing markets, forest health, and water quality and quantity are all issues that can be addressed through the “Changing Roles” workshops that emphasizes a proactive approach through partnerships and community involvement.

### Prioritization-

Wildland-urban interface areas continue to increase within the state of Kentucky posing many threats to the commonwealth's forested area. The Kentucky Division of Forestry has identified conserving, protecting, and enhancing Kentucky's forests within the wildland-urban interface as a priority using the "Changing Roles" workshops to increase awareness of the concern to our personnel and exploring solutions as the first phase of the process.

### Meaningful Scale-

Wildland-urban interface issues regarding natural resource management is increasing statewide. Kentucky Division of Forestry personnel along with key natural resource partners will be participating in the training.

### Collaboration-

Participants in the "Champion Dealer" workshop will include:

### Integrated Delivery-

Upon completion of the “Changing Roles” training program and use of the information presented, interaction is expected to increase among partners in the state, federal, or private sector in resolving natural resource management issues.

### Leverage-

Leverage for project will be \$25,000 personnel match under the consolidated grant guidelines.

### Influence Positive Change-

The result of this training will produce skills and a capability with natural resource professionals that extend well beyond the life of this project. The education received will be

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resolving natural resource issues within targeted critical or interfaces areas. Participants will have the necessary background to facilitate future "Champion Dialog" model events to meet the

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